PROGRESSIVE CLUB
OF STINSON BEACH
POST OFFICE BOX 6 • STINSON BEACH
CALIFORNIA • 94970

March 6, 1971

Members and Friends:

REPORT and NOTICE OF MEETING

The pattern of future development - how land will be used - probably is the most important single factor in fixing the destiny of our community. This may seem rather remote in terms of our everyday concerns, but in the long run all of us will be affected.

Our increasing awareness during the last several years of man's power to adversely change his environment, and the likelihood of his doing so, is reflected in our concern about the Bolinas Lagoon. The club has devoted meetings to the presentation of the Conservation Foundation's report on the Lagoon, and the more recent report of the State Department of Fish and Game. Both reports made it clear that the Lagoon is inseparable from its watershed, and recommended ways in which that watershed might be managed for the purpose of preserving the Lagoon.

Management of the watershed will require a great deal of governmental determination (at the county level and elsewhere), leadership and community support. It will necessarily involve balancing the environmental goals of the community and the county with the cost of achieving those goals, all with a decent respect for the private rights which exist.

The county's approach has included ordinances to regulate logging and the use of lands adjacent to tidal waterways, funding of scientific studies and some interim ordinances (to "hold the line"). In response to a condition in the grant of title to the Lagoon to the county, a plan for the

use of the Lagoon is being prepared for the Legislature.

This plan, not yet complete, will be the subject of our next meeting. Tom Cordill of the county planning staff will be the speaker, and other county people may be present. The meeting will be on Friday, March 19, 1971 at 8:00 p.m. at the Stinson Beach Community Center. Election of officers is also on the agenda. Members and non-members alike are welcome.

Going beyond A Plan For The Lagoon, it is now clear that this must be followed by substantial changes in the Stinson Beach - Bolinas Master Plan, and preliminary work on this is getting underway. Your club's planning committee (G. Coyle Briggs, Chairman) will monitor this planning effort and work with the county staff, reporting to the club from time to time. Your thoughts on this subject will be appreciated by the committee.

Cordially,

Hugh Dougherty, President
Arthur Volz, Vice-President
Ralph Sigmund, Treasurer
Aleta Brownlee, Secretary

P.S. It's that time again! A dues envelope is enclosed.

MINUTES

Progressive Club of Stinson Beach

March 19, 1971

The meeting was called to order by the President, Hugh Dougherty. It was moved, seconded and passed that the minute reading ofthe last meeting be dispensed with.

Treasurer's report attached.

The nominating committee composed of Otto Reutinger, Janet Tupper and Dorothy Mayfield presented the following slate

President.	Hugh Dougherty
Vice Pres.	Arthur Volz
Treasurer	Ralph Sigmund
Secretary	Aleta Brownlee

who were unanimously elected.

Mr. Dougherty announced that at the next meeting we would possibly have the candidates for the School Board.

He then introduced Tom Cordill, on special assignment from the Planning Commission to the Dept. of Parks and Recreation who reported on the present status of planning for the Bolinas Lagoon.

Mr. Cordill said the plan was nearing the end of it's first stage for presentation to the State Lands Commission. This covers the tidal area now under state control and other lands publicly owned. However it cannot be separated from a plan for the watershed which is crucial to its existence. The county will have five years to produce a final plan. The second stage will be implementation. He hopes it will be ready near the end of May at which time there will be presentations and public discussion. He said it is largely based on recommendations of the Conservation Foundation and the State Fish and Game Commission.

He stated that the lagoon is unique and must be kept that way. The key word is preservation. If circulation can be maintained there should only be a slow input of pollution from the watershed to contend with and most of that should be controlled.

Present problems are pollution which will be mostly controlled when the sewer system is built but there will still be runoff including DDT unless controlled. There is sedimentation from logging and mining and standards of land development and use of the uplands must be established. Physical growth and development must be controlled.

Present planning is considering a bicycle path around the lagoon, raising the state highway is areas which flood, limited dredging only to open channels, control of logging and stabilizing Kent Spit.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Aleta Brownlee
Secretary

ANNUAL REPORT 1971

PROGRESSIVE CLUB OF STINSON BEACH

Two well attended public meetings were held by the Progressive Club in 1971.

At the first, held on March 17th, the speaker was Tom Cordill, then on special ass gnment from the Planning Commission to the Department of Parks and Recreation to prepare the plan for Bolinas Lagoon which must be presented to the State Lands Commission. As devised so far, theplan covers tidal areas but Mr. Cordill pointed out that it cannot be separated from a plan for the watershed. The plan is based largely on recommendations of the Conservation League and the State Fish and Game Commission. Mr. Cordill pointed out problems of the lagoon, including pollution, sedimentation, and circulation.

He said that present planning is considering a bicycle path around the lagoon, raising the State highway in areas which flood, limited dredging and logging.

The second meeting of the Progressive Club was held on June 25, 1971, to consider the current status of plans for a sewerx system which had been developed by the Stinson Beach Water District. Mr. Hugh Dougherty, President of the Water Board and also of the Progressive Club explained the plan for a joint sewer system with Bolinas and its costs.

There were many questions and a good deal of opposition to the plan. Opposition centered around excessive cost, lack of participation of the community in planning, non-use of ecological knowledge, questions about ocean outfall and opposition to joint planning with Bolinas.

In addition to these meetings, several were held by the Zoning and Planning Committee of which Mr. Coyle Briggs is chairman.

Aleta Brownlee
Chairman

MINUTES

Progressive Club of Stinson Beach

June 25, 1971

The meeting was called to inform residents of Stinson Beach abou t the current status of plans for a sewer which had been developed by the Stinson Beach Water District.

Mr. Hugh Dougherty who is President of the Stinson Beach Water District as well as President of the Progressive Club spoke to this subject.

He said there are approximately 1000 residences or small businesses in the Stinson Beach Bolinas area. Two hundred of these (in Bolinas) through a sewer system discharge raw sewage into the lagoon. For many years this has been protested to no avail by health authorities but they are now under order from the State or they will incur a large fine. Other homes in both towns are primarily served by septic tanks. Mr. Dougherty spoke at some leagth of the inadequacy of septic tanks.

In 1969 the Stinson Beach and Bolinas Water Districts agreed to construct joint use facilities, consisting of a treatment plant which would be on the mesa in Bolinas, a pump station and interceptor pipe and an ocean outfall, while each community would provide its own collection system. Stinson Beach would also provide an interceptor pipe to the end of the sandspit and an underground channel crossing at the mouth of the lagoon.

Capacity of the system was basicly determined for Stinson Beach by the population projection of the 1961 County Master Plan and for Bolinas by the possibility that the population would double in the near future. The ocean outfall, however, in order to prevent future costly alterations, will be oversize and could serve a population of 28000. (1961 master plan)

Total cost is estimated at $ 8 159 000.00 Of this it is hoped to receive $ 2 580 000.00 in federal and state grants for the joint use facilities.Stinson Beach's share (58%) toward the joint use facilities will be 603 000 and its share for sole use facilities is expected to be $ 2 818 000.00, or a total of $ 3 421 000.00 . Cost to the individual property owner, using as an example a 7500 sq. ft. lot will be around $2500 or if through a bond issue for 25 years, it would add approximatley $225 to the annual tax bill.

There were many questions and a good deal of opposition to the plan. It centered around the fact that action had been taken and costs incurred without knowledge of the community; population projections were considered unreal since the preliminary master plan for 1971 shows greatly reduced figures; cost was considered excessive, including that already incurred for engineering fees; planning had been poor in view of new ecological knowledge and the fact that pipes would cross the San Andreas fault and that there is now objection on various grounds to ocean outfall; it appeared that Stinson Beach which may have inadequacies but where no real study has been made would be carrying a great burden and be rushed into a plan for Bolinas which has a real and immediate problem.

Aleta Brownlee